

February 12, 2003

Honorable Michael Powell  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 01-338, Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers

Dear Chairman Powell,

The South Orange County Regional Chambers of Commerce was established to provide leadership by promoting economic vitality, community development and a positive image of South Orange County. In order to achieve this, we must identify important issues, establish collaborative efforts in the interest of business and influence the public policy that affects our mission. One such issue, about which I am writing to you today, is unbundling regulation in the telecommunications industry.

It is our hope that the Federal Communications Commission would enact regulations that would add significant value, efficiencies and capabilities to small and large businesses across the U.S. That is why we are supporting the proposals before the FCC that would eliminate unbundled switching and UNE-P.

It is clear that if broadband investment is freed from costly unbundling regulation, we will see a significant increase in the investment and deployment of valuable new technologies.

Further, consider a recent study by the Progress and Freedom Foundation, which found that eliminating the current unbundling regime would result in the creation of more than 1 million new jobs in the communications sector and an increase in capital spending of \$169.5 billion over the next five years.

We hope you will consider these facts and our position before you make a decision at the upcoming Triennial Review.

Thank you,

Tanya C. McElhaney, CEO

South Orange County Regional  
Chambers of Commerce

Kay Kearney, Vice-Chairman  
Governmental Affairs Committee

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy  
Commissioner Adelstein  
Commissioner Martin  
Commissioner Copps